



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Selectmen's Minutes 04-07-2008

TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, April 7, 2008

7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rowe, Chair, Mr. Hurd, Vice Chair, Ms. LaCourt, Mrs. Mahon and Mr. Greeley
 Also present: Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Maher and Mrs. Krepelka

First order of business was to conduct an organizational meeting for the purpose of electing a Chairman and Vice Chairman. Mr. Greeley nominated Ms. Rowe for Chair and was seconded by Mrs. Mahon. Mrs. Mahon nominated Mr. Hurd for Vice Chair seconded by Ms. LaCourt. Both Chairman and Vice Chairman were unanimous votes. After said nominations, the organizational meeting was dissolved and the gavel was handed to Ms. Rowe by Mrs. Krepelka.

FOR APPROVAL

1. CONSENT AGENDA (one vote required for approval of all items)

a. Minutes of Meeting: March 31, 2008

b. Request: Permit for Hardy School PTO Walkathon, Friday, May 9, 2008, 3:00PM-5:00PM

Betsey Crimmins, Co-Chair Walkathon Committee

c. Appointments

New Election Workers

Janet Pagliuca, 72 Piedmont St.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval.

he did not attend the meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0) Mr. Greeley abstained for voting on the Minutes of 3/31/08 since

2. Introduction of the Town Counsel Appointee

Brian Sullivan, Town Manager

The Town Manager introduced Juliana deHaan Rice, an Arlington resident, as the next Town Counsel. She will start sometime in May.

7:30 PM PUBLIC HEARING

3. Request: New Wine & Malt License

Manna Sushi, Sung Jo Choe, Manager, 9A-9B Medford St.

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to rules and conditions as set forth.

SO VOTED (5-0)

4. Vote: CDBG Applications Approval

Kevin O'Brien, Director of Planning

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved allocations for a Community Development Block Grant, funds for low and moderate income programs from the federal government's Housing and Urban Development. This year's requests amounted to \$2.4 million and Arlington received \$1.3 million, \$80,000 less than last year. As part of the allocations, the Thompson School received money to install sidewalks on both sides of the school.

Selectman Greeley raised the question about giving federal money to the Arlington Housing Authority, stating that he would like to see the Authority put up its own money to match the CDBG grants. Mr. Greeley asked that in the future, the Planning Department provide the Board of Selectmen with detailed information on use of Arlington Housing Authority allocations.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

5. Vote: Water & Sewer Rates

John Bean, Director of DPW

John Bean, Director of Public Works, informed the Board of Selectmen of a proposed combined rate increase of 7.5 percent for sewer and water beginning in July 2008. Mr. Bean stated that the capital budget, which includes hiring contractors for larger repairs than staffing allows, increased over the years faster than the operating budget. Operating costs are projected at 4% but as we boost up our capital improvements program, it brings the rates up to the 7.5%.

The Selectmen voted to increase the rates by 7.5% for F2009-FY2011.

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Water & Sewer Annual Rate Costs *						
COMPARISON BETWEEN AREA MWRA TOWNS						
Using a Family of Four = Average Annual Use of 120 CCF						
	FY 2008 Rates					
		Water	Sewer	Combined		
	~	Rate /yr	Rate /yr	Rate /yr		
	Arlington	393	378	771		
	Belmont	590	1,057	1,647		
	Cambridge	349	788	1,137		
	Lexington	380	874	1,254		
	New ton	496	771	1,267		
	Medford	754	745	1,499		
	Somerville	579	579	1,158		
	Winchester	375	292	667		

WATER / SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	~	Arlington DPW	4/3/2008						
~	EXPENSES-REVENUES PROJECTION	J:\Budget\EnterpriseFinancialProjection843.xls]5 yr projection	Increase						
~	~	~	FY 06	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	> FY 09
1	PERSONNEL SERVICES	<u>1,967,802</u>	<u>2,016,341</u>	<u>2,165,901</u>	<u>2,193,390</u>	<u>2,281,126</u>	<u>2,372,371</u>	1.04	
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
2	WATER OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>3,641,817</u>	<u>3,951,418</u>	<u>4,035,579</u>	<u>4,209,252</u>	<u>4,377,622</u>	<u>4,552,727</u>	~	
3	~	Maint. Water Distribution	206,510	375,875	310,800	296,400	308,256	320,586	1.04
4	~	Maintenance of Plant	44,012	44,779	87,000	62,500	65,000	67,600	1.04

5	~	MMRA Assessment - Water	3,389,266	3,527,387	3,633,779	3,846,352	4,000,206	4,160,214	1.04
6	~	Great Meadows	2,029	3,377	4,000	4,000	4,160	4,326	1.04
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
7	SEWER OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>6,020,623</u>	<u>6,282,326</u>	<u>6,709,155</u>	<u>6,730,328</u>	<u>6,999,541</u>	<u>7,279,523</u>	~	
8	~	Maint. Of Sewer System	131,887	136,315	137,000	221,000	229,840	239,034	1.04
9	~	Maintenance of Storm Sewers	25,551	2,711	32,500	27,500	28,600	29,744	1.04
10	~	MMRA Assessment - Sewer	5,863,185	6,143,300	6,539,655	6,481,828	6,741,101	7,010,745	1.04
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
11	INDIRECT EXPENSES	<u>773,786</u>	<u>784,833</u>	<u>928,422</u>	<u>971,329</u>	<u>1,010,182</u>	<u>1,050,589</u>		1.04
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
12	CAPITAL EXPENSES	<u>244,909</u>	<u>1,211,191</u>	<u>1,224,143</u>	<u>1,178,276</u>	<u>1,404,126</u>	<u>1,753,474</u>		variable
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	
13	TOTAL W/S FUND EXPENSES	<u>12,648,937</u>	<u>14,246,109</u>	<u>15,063,200</u>	<u>15,282,575</u>	<u>16,072,597</u>	<u>17,008,684</u>	~	
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
14	TOTAL W/S FUND REVENUES	<u>13,770,430</u>	<u>13,294,173</u>	<u>14,815,992</u>	<u>15,332,677</u>	<u>15,897,912</u>	<u>16,489,593</u>	~	
15	~	User Charges	7,972,766	7,513,188	9,042,680	9,575,068	10,138,800	10,735,722	1.075
16	~	Water Connection Fees	26,163	22,408	22,400	22,400	22,400	22,400	1.00
17	~	Water Liens	62,391	96,372	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	1.00
17b	~	Liens Costs	5,052	7,789	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	1.00
18	~	Interest & Penalties	17,772	20,750	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	1.00
19	~	Interest & Dividends	35,995	40,554	77,800	62,097	63,600	58,359	variable
20	~	Property Tax Subsidy	5,650,291	5,593,112	5,593,112	5,593,112	5,593,112	5,593,112	1.00
21	~	Use of Reserves	-1,121,493	951,936	247,208	-50,102	174,685	519,091	variable
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
22	UNCOMMITTED CASH RESERVES	3,269,038	2,317,102	2,069,894	2,119,996	1,945,310	1,426,220		
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	
~	USER RATES	~	~	~	New FY09	~	~		
23	~	Water Fixed Fee	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	16.90	
24	~	Water < 200 ccf	2.50	2.63	2.99	3.21	3.46	3.71	
25	~	Water > 200 ccf	3.68	3.86	4.40	4.73	5.08	5.47	
26	~	Sewer < 1000 ccf	2.63	2.76	3.15	3.39	3.64	3.91	
27	~	Sewer > 1000 ccf	5.25	5.51	6.28	6.75	7.26	7.80	
~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	
28	~	Average Home 120 ccf/yr	632.50	663.70	753.70	808.96	868.36	932.22	
29	~	Average Home per month	52.71	55.31	62.81	67.41	72.36	77.69	

6. Transportation Advisory Committee – Thompson School Improvements

Ed Starr, Chair

The Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee made the following recommendations to the Board of Selectmen to improve pedestrian safety around the Thompson School.

1. Establish Thompson as a "school zone" with the appropriate signs and markings along North Union and Everett Streets.
2. Install crosswalk sign assemblies at the busiest crosswalk locations, including (in priority order):
 1. North Union/ Purcell (school crosswalk)
 2. Broadway/ Everett (crosswalk)
 3. River/ University/Cornell (update to school crosswalk warning assembly.
(See Figure 2 Everett / University)
3. Install new crosswalks in the following locations:
 1. Across North Union St. at the junction of North Union and Norcross (north side)
 2. Across Ernest Road near the junction of Ernest and Everett.
 3. Across Norcross St. near the junction of Norcross and North Union.
4. Parking signs (No changes being made to the parking rules at this point)
 1. No Parking signs on North Union to 175' north of Broadway
 2. No Parking here to corner on Broadway approaching Everett (20' rule)
 3. Replace two faded No Parking signs on Everett adjacent to the school
5. Signs and markings near North Union / Broadway
 1. Stop bar at the North Union exit of Dunkin Donuts
 2. Yellow centerline for 50' on North Union
 3. Move the No Turn on Red sign for North Union southbound to a more visible location (signal pole at the SW corner of Broadway and Oxford)

Members of the Transportation Advisory Committee (Scott Smith and Jean Clark) participated with Principal Sheri Donovan and parent Angela Alton in a working group reviewing student access to the Thompson School. Phase 1a recommendations include items that can be easily completed before the start of the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

LICENSES & PERMITS

7. Request: Common Victualler License

Lady Siam, Phannida Panpeng & Jarassri Muannuathong, owners/managers,
882A Mass. Ave.

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to rules and conditions as set forth. SO VOTED (5-0)

8. CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

Any matter presented for consideration of the Board shall neither be acted upon, nor a decision made the night of the presentation in accordance with the policy under which the Open Forum was established.

Vicky Ford, 16 Twin Circle Drive, appeared before the Selectmen regarding Stand for Children's Day On The Hill. Mrs. Ford stated as part of the 2005 Override town officials made a commitment to aggressively seek increases in local aid from the legislature to get us back to the 2002 levels. This year, more than ever, they need the Board's support. The Lobby Day will be held at the State House on Tuesday, April 15th from 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. The meeting in Gardner Auditorium will be a chance for the Board to help Stand for Children show strength in numbers and to hear about new directions in state education policy from Paul Reville, the Commissioner of Education; Committee Chair Senator Ed Augustus; Chris Gabrielli of Mass 2020 and perhaps Governor Patrick. The legislators always tell us that in addition to hearing from parents and other citizens in a community, they need to hear from town decision makers, the Board of Selectmen and committee members. Mrs. Ford looks forward to seeing the Board and any others on April 15th.

Gordon Jamieson, 163 Scituate Street, invited the members of the Board of Selectmen and citizens of Arlington to attend the Annual State of the Town Address.

Also spoke about Community Collection Day to be held on May 3, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Department of Public Works Yard, 51 Grove Street. They will be accepting used clothing, old sneakers, working toys, books of all types, VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, albums, recycle piles of old papers, junk mail, catalogs, newspapers and magazines. Residents can bring confidential papers for shredding. You can donate adult bicycles, returnable cans and bottles. Arlington Board of Health will collect needles/syringes and unused or old prescription drugs. You can also pick up a free blue recycling bin. The Recycling Committee will have a dumpster for cardboard 24/7 at the Town Yard for all cardboard products. Also, on Saturday, April 26th at Lexington High School is an eWaste collection for consumer electronics and computer hardware.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that representatives from the Boston Red Sox will visit Arlington as part of the World Championship Trophy tour. They will be at the Arlington Sport Center (Recreation Building) 422 Summer Street, Friday, April 11, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. All residents are welcomed.

Mr. Sullivan stated that there is a meeting on April 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Peirce School regarding the Forest Street improvements. All residents have been notified about said meeting and the Engineering Department is in the preliminary stage of designing improvements. The design process is expected to continue through August followed by construction in the fall.

*Mr. Kenneth Marquis asked permission to ask the Board a question regarding Proposition 2 1/2.

He does not want another override and feels the Board of Selectmen has the power to change things. Ms. LaCourt assured Mr. Marquis that the Town is committed to the Five Year Plan and the Board of Selectmen promised the voters that they would not be asked to vote on another override before 2010. Mr. Marquis thanked Ms. LaCourt and the Board for their information.

*Mr. Paulo Marinelli, 28 Brooks Avenue thanked all the candidates for running a successful race and congratulated Mrs. Mahon on winning nineteen of twenty-one precincts.

Mrs. LaCourt asked the Board to join her on Sunday, April 13th with the Brain Bee Contest to be held at the Town Hall. The contest is sponsored by the Arlington Enrichment Program.

Mr. Hurd stated that the Feast of the East will be held on Saturday, June 7th.

Mr. Greeley stated that he had received many calls asking if the results of the town elections could be put on the web site the night of election. Mr. Sullivan stated that he would talk to Joan Roman about having the results posted for next year's election.

Mrs. Mahon reported that any resident with concerns about the Summer Street project should be at Peirce School at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16th, to see the new plans before the scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Mahon asked the Town Manager to contact Christine Connelly, Director of Public Health, to look into the issue of animal infestation (rodents) at the Summer Street construction site and report back to the Board.

Mrs. Mahon reported that Annie Barnes a resident of Chestnut Manor would like a crosswalk at the entrance of Chestnut Terrace for the elderly residents to cross Chestnut Street without going to the traffic light at Mystic Street or the crosswalk in front of Keefe Funeral Home. Mr. Sullivan stated he would look into said request and report back to the Board.

*Appeared before Board during New Business.

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

SO VOTED (5-0)

A true record: Attest:

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator